

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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GEN. WHELOCK G. VEAZEY DEAD.

**As Citizen, Jurist and Public Official
He Had a Brilliant Record.**



GEN WHELOCK G. VEAZEY.

From the BOSTON GLOBE, March 23, 1898.

Wheelock Graves Veazey

by David F. Cross, M.D.

Colonel Wheelock G. Veazey was probably the most prominent resident of Rutland in the later half of the 19th Century. His renown extended well beyond the valleys of Vermont. An article from *The Boston Globe* upon his death in 1898 began: "Gen. Wheelock Graves Veazey was a resident of Rutland, Vt., and his record as a citizen, soldier, jurist and public official was all that could add luster to the fair name of any American family."¹

Late in his life, Veazey and his wife made one of his last visits to Rutland when they returned from Washington, DC, in 1891. He was met at the railroad station by the members of the Rutland Roberts Post #14 of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and the Kingsley Guard. The sidewalks of Depot Park and Merchants Row were crowded with enthusiastic Rutlanders. As Veazey was escorted from the station, the Cornet Band played "Hail to the Chief". A procession consisting of the Rochester Drum Corps, the Kingsley Guard and members of the Roberts Post, GAR, surrounded the carriages conveying Veazey, his wife and other notables on a triumphant procession through the city to the home of John N. Baxter² where the Veazeys stayed as guests. Upon arrival at the Baxter house, Chaplain Haynes,³ on behalf of the GAR post, welcomed Veazey home and spoke of him as a "gallant soldier, eminent at the bar and the judiciary, and recognized as one lifted to a higher eminence by virtue of being Commander-in-Chief of the national Grand Army of the Republic." Colonel Veazey responded by thanking the GAR post for the special welcome and Doctor Haynes for the cordial greeting. The assembled entourage then gave three cheers for the Commander-in-Chief before marching back to Merchants Row.⁴

Who was this illustrious Rutlander? Wheelock Veazey was born at Brentwood, NH, on 5 December 1835. He was the youngest of the ten children of Jonathan Veazey, Jr., and Anne Stevens Veazey. The original family name, de Vesci, has been traced back to the Viscount de Vesci, one of the followers of William the Conqueror. The family moved to nearby Exeter, NH, in 1842 where the young Veazey attended Philips Academy. He went on to Dartmouth College, graduating in the Class of 1859. Little is known about his undergraduate experience except for a bill from Dartmouth College for the autumn term in 1855 charging 30 cents for room rent and 50 cents for "repairs". Cost for the term was \$15.40.⁵ We do know that at Dartmouth he was a very good student. A report card dated 5 August 1855, with a grading scale of "1 is the highest [and] 5 the lowest mark", shows Veazey's scholarship was rated as 1.37 in "Recitation" and 1.15 as determined by "Examination".⁶ He briefly studied law at the Albany Law School and in the office of the Honorable Gilman Marston of Exeter. In the autumn of 1860 Veazey opened a law practice in Springfield, VT, and was admitted to the Vermont bar at the December term of the Windsor County Court. His law practice was short-lived however, for upon the secession of the southern states and the

W. G. Veazey

To the Trustees of DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, Dr.

To TERM BILL, ending *November* A. D. 1855

Tuition, in advance,	\$12.00
Room Rent,	30
Repairs,	30
Catalogues,	60
Library,	

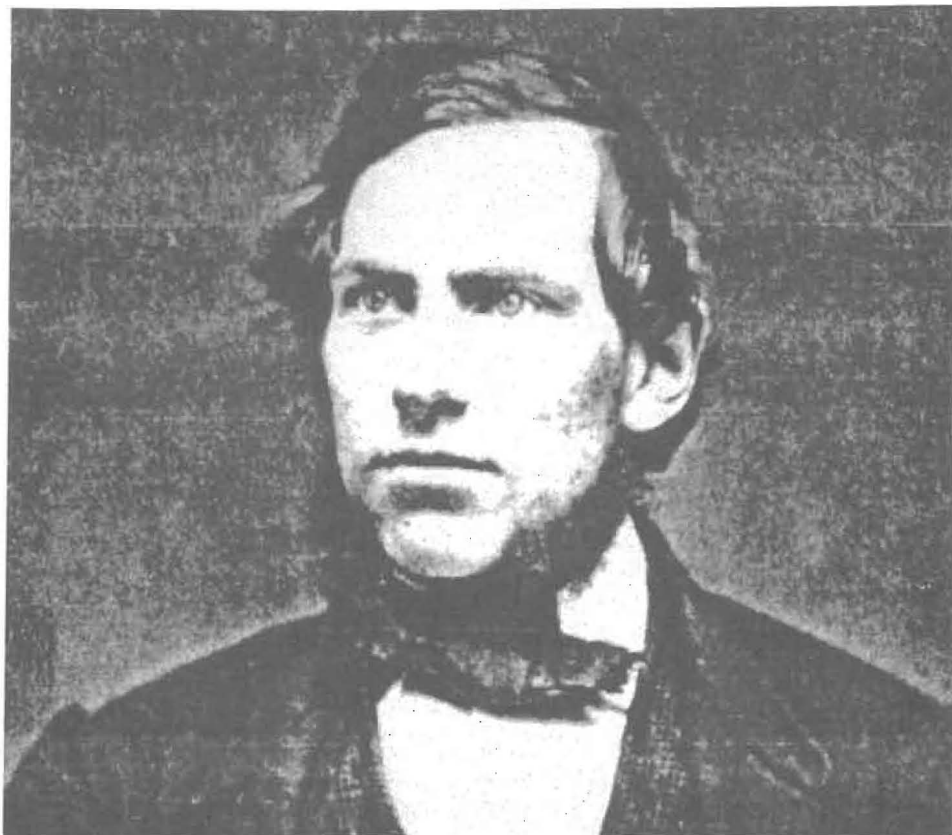
Mar 15 1856

Received Payment,

\$15.40

D. M. Will Treas.

W. G. Veazey's tuition receipt from Dartmouth College. Dated March 15, 1856, it shows payment of \$15.40.



Wheelock G. Veazey at the time of his graduation from Dartmouth College in 1859.

coming of the rebellion in 1861, Veazey was among the first to rally to the support of the federal union. He enlisted as a private in the Springfield company of the Third Regiment, Vermont Volunteer Infantry.

His diary, dated Monday, 22 April 1861, contains the following entry:⁷

A meeting of the citizens was held this evening to consider the state of the nation & organize volunteers. I was Sec[retary] and made several speeches amid great applause. Was the first to volunteer. 56 others followed me. This is probably the most important day of my life. May God bless our efforts & the Cause.

On Monday, 29 April 1861 he wrote:

Company elected officers this morn. I was unanimously chosen Captain.

On Friday, 1 May he added:

Went to Rutland with 18 others to see the detached regiment. Was introduced to Gov. Fairbanks & many others.

And on Thursday, 20 June, he noted with satisfaction:

My commission is the first & my Co. is Co. A. Good!

Prior to the departure of his regiment for the front, Captain Veazey took time out to marry Julia A. Beard, the daughter of the Honorable Albin Beard, proprietor and editor of the *Nashua* [NH] *Telegraph*. His diary entry of Friday, 21 June 1861 noted:

Came to Nashau [sic] to day - to get married.

On the two following days he added:

Saturday, June 22, 1861: Was married at ¼ before 9 PM. Had a splendid wedding & a glorious time. God bless my darling wife.

Sunday, June 23, 1861: Attended Unitarian church with my own wife. She seems perfect to me. This is a happy day. May it be an index of my life. I believe I have a good wife.

On 24 July Captain Veazey departed St. Johnsbury for Washington with Company A as part of the Third Regiment of Vermont Volunteers, 882 strong. The regiment crossed the Chain Bridge over the Potomac River into Virginia on 3 September and had its first engagement on 11 September while making a reconnaissance near Lewinsville, VA. Veazey's diary for that day records:

Had a fight at Levinsville [sic] today. The first I was ever in. Were fired at for one hour by 6 guns. Lost 3 killed & 8 or 10 wounded. Drove the enemy 3 regts. infantry, One of cavalry.

Veazey was a member of the court martial board which ordered the execution of "The Sleeping Sentinel", Private William Scott of the Third Vermont, who was found asleep at his post and who was later pardoned by President Lincoln.

In 1861 when Major Walter W. Cochran resigned because of illness on 6 August and Colonel William F. ("Baldy") Smith was promoted to Brigadier General

on 13 August, Captain Veazey was promoted to the rank of Major on 10 August and then three days later to Lieutenant Colonel. Thus, at the age of 25, four months after enlisting as a private and less than three months after being commissioned as an officer, Veazey was a Lieutenant Colonel. Although Lieutenant Colonel Breed N. Hyde had been promoted to colonel, Veazey commanded the Third Vermont much of the time. George G. Benedict in his history, *Vermont in the Civil War*, makes this clear, remarking:

“In these trying days [of Major General George Brinton McClellan’s Peninsula Campaign to capture Richmond] the regiment was commanded by Lieut. Colonel Veazey, Colonel Hyde being absent on sick leave.”⁸

Benedict goes on to say:

“[Veazey’s] military genius was early recognized . . . He was, for some time in the winter and spring of 1862, a member of the staff of Maj. General William F. Smith . . . Thus trained, under masters of the art of war, he was a spirited and capable commander. A thorough disciplinarian, cool and brave in battle and prompt and zealous in every duty, he had the absolute confidence of his regiment, which he made one of the best in drill and discipline.”

Veazey does appear to have had natural ability and to have learned the craft of a soldier rapidly and well. During the Peninsula Campaign, his Division Commander, Brigadier General William T. H. Brooks, when referring to the conduct of the Vermont Brigade in the battle of Savage’s Station on 29 June 1862, said:

“The conduct of the troops in this section was generally commendable. Of those that came under my own eye I take pleasure in mentioning the name of Lieutenant Colonel Veazey as being exceeding active in leading on the men and keeping up those disposed to stragglers.”⁹

Generally recognized as a capable and spirited commander, Veazey was appointed by Governor Erastus Fairbanks to the colonelcy of the Sixteenth Vermont on 27 September 1862. The Sixteenth Regiment was one of the five nine-month regiments organized in the wake of the failure of McClellan’s Peninsula Campaign. Veazey’s new regiment served on guard duty in the outer defenses of Washington during the winter of 1862–63 where it experienced no hostile action.

At Gettysburg on 3 July 1863 as part of Brigadier General George J. Stannard’s 2nd [Vermont] Brigade of the Third Division of the First Army Corps commanded by Major General Abner Doubleday, the Sixteenth Regiment and its Colonel earned an illustrious place in the history of the Civil War by taking a pivotal part in turning back Pickett’s Charge. It was here, on the third day of the battle, that Veazey’s brilliance, cool leadership and valor earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The citation reads:

“At Gettysburg, Pa, 3 July 1863: Rapidly assembling his regiment and charging the enemy’s flank, changed front under heavy fire, and charged and destroyed a confederate brigade, all this with new troops in their first battle.”¹⁰



Colonel W. G. Veazey 16th Regiment Vermont Volunteer Infantry, 1863.

In his diary Veazey recorded:¹¹

Tuesday, June 30, 1863: Marched from near Adamsville to Emmitsburg about 18 miles. Very severe march. Men are foot sore. Have marched 108 miles in 6 days.

Wednesday, July 1, 1863: Marched to battle field near Getysburg [sic] but did not arrive in season. Our forces driven back. Took position in the line of battle. Very severe march. 1st Corps fought enemy alone. Loss severe.

Thursday, July 2, 1863: Battle began at 5 PM & continued until dark. We were not engaged but lay under severe artillery fire supporting batteries—lost about 10 men. Occupied the front line when the battle closed. Whole Reg. put on picket. Am Div. field officer of Day.

Friday, July 3, 1863: Skirmishing began a quarter before 4 o'clock . . . Artillery opened first at 4 AM then ceased somewhat until 2 PM when 100 pieces opened on us. Continued 2 hours when the enemy advanced. Captured 3 colors—lost one afterward. Brought in 2nd Florida and 8th Va. We have won a great victory.

This is understated. Veazey's skillful deployment and control of his regiment was exceptional and earned him national recognition. To these Vermonters goes much of the credit for breaking up Pickett's charge. Lieutenant Joseph H. Goulding, Veazey's longtime friend and GAR associate, recounts the scene with the Vermonters hugging the ground during the two-hour cannonade:

"Then all of a sudden over there on that long crest it slackens and stops; there is a portentous hush and some one with a glass at his eye says: 'there they come,' and just emerging from the rebel lines you can see the long ranks of gray, the shimmer of steel in the July sun as their bayonets glitter above their heads. They are sweeping grandly on and on as they come toward us down the slope. They are in three divisions with a front of about a thousand yards but looking far longer in this smoky air. Now fairly on their way, our fire rekindles and shot and shell tear through their solid masses but the gaps close sternly up and on they come. Their batteries behind them open again over their heads and again the air seems filled with all that kills. They are headed straight for that part of the line where the Vermonters are still hugging the ground and out of sight from the foe who quite naturally suppose them destroyed or paralyzed by the heavy fire to which they have been subjected. Now the gray ranks are almost upon us, their fringe of skirmishers engage ours but are momentarily repulsed while still the heavy charging column comes on nearer and yet nearer. Now within rifle range, their tossing flags wave with their rapid motion as they hurry toward their goal, but just here the long lines of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Sixteenth rise as if suddenly grown out of the very earth at their very feet and pour a deadly volley into those closed massed ranks. They stagger and break and surge off to the right as they meet it and so expose their flank and out upon that flank changing front forward under the storm of lead as if on parade, Veazey swings the Sixteenth on the left of the Thirteenth . . . and firing as they advance, pours most terrible and destruc-

tive volleys into Pickett's dense column which seems to fairly wither and shrivel under them and this unexpected onslaught."¹²

The Vermonters "blasted Pickett's right flank to smithereens" according to Vermont historian G. G. Benedict who wrote: "This was more than the rebels had counted on. They began to break and scatter to the rear in less than five minutes, and in ten more it was utter rout."¹³

Major General Doubleday on Cemetery Ridge swung his hat shouting: "Glory to God, glory to God, see the Vermonters go at it."¹⁴

E. Porter Alexander, General Longstreet's chief of artillery, is blunt in his explanation of Pickett's repulse saying ". . . the details of the fight by Pickett's division show that it was not defeated at all by what it first met in front, but was overwhelmed on the flanks & by reinforcements."¹⁵

If the approbation of the enemy is the highest form of praise then Veazey received it from a captured Rebel colonel who remarked bitterly:

"As we marched over that fatal field never was I more confident of victory. But when I saw that Damn Vermont Colonel on foot, hat off, sword swinging in the air in front of his men and cheering them on upon our flank, I knew we were doomed."¹⁶

Lt. Goulding described the scene:

"Now in this confusion of friend and foe, blue and gray, still another danger threatens. A part of this desperately charging force commanded by Wilcox and Perry were late in starting and doubtless misunderstanding the disappearance of Pickett upon their left front, comes as steadily down, alike brave, alike bold, and hopeful and sure, making for the guns to the left of where Pickett [sic] and Garnett and Kemper have just failed. What is to be done? . . .

Veazey ordered his regiment to change front and

"stepping in front of his regiment he rings out the question: 'Men are you ready for a charge?' The response was a Vermont cheer heard above the roar of battle and sooner than we can say it the charge broke upon the flank of the enemy and swept on down his line, capturing regiment after regiment, stand after stand of colors, until the whole line had disappeared and the battle of Gettysburg was victoriously closed by the sons of Vermont . . ."¹⁷

In his afteraction report, Colonel Veazey describes his attack on Pickett's flank:

"At about 2 p.m. the enemy again opened with their artillery severely. They are reported to have had over one hundred pieces in our front. At about 4 p.m. the enemy advanced a line of battle against my picket line with great vigor. The pickets stood firm and opened fire upon them. The Fourteenth Vermont was moved down to the right of my reserves which consisted of six companies. . . . The Thirteenth Vermont moved forward to the right of the Fourteenth and a little to the right of their line, and the three regiments opened a rapid and destructive fire upon the right of the line of the enemy (Pickett's division), which

soon diverged to their left, and thereby left their right flank exposed. Pursuant to an order to me, the Sixteenth Regiment passed back and along by the rear of the Fourteenth and moved to the left of the Thirteenth, and, joining on to the left of that regiment, changed front forward, corresponding to a like movement of the Thirteenth, and the two regiments charged into the flank of the enemy and very soon crushed the force in our new front. Very many prisoners were taken in this charge. The line of the enemy had scarcely been destroyed before another line advanced farther to the left and obliquely to my rear. . . . I moved about 15 rods by marching by the left flank and filing to the left, so as to gain upon the enemy and bring my front facing obliquely to his left flank. When this position was gained I received permission to charge. The result of this charge was a very large number of prisoners, and, in the two movements, three stands of colors, the colors being stripped from one standard. The two brought in were the Second Florida and the Eighth Virginia.”¹⁸

After the battle, with Stannard wounded, Colonel Veazey assumed command of the Second Vermont Brigade. General Hancock offered Veazey promotion to Brigadier General but, because of his deteriorating health, Veazey declined and was mustered out with his regiment. A year earlier, on 13 September 1862, an army surgeon had forwarded this request for a medical leave of absence. The physician stated:

“I do hereby certify that I have carefully examined this officer [Veazey] and find that he is suffering from Diarrhea which he has for over two months, leaving him in a debilitated condition. And that, in consequence thereof, he is, in my opinion, unfit for duty. I further declare my belief that he will not be able to resume his duties in a less period than thirty days—and that he needs removal to a more northern climate.”¹⁹

Lieutenant Joseph H. Goulding, speaking about Veazey’s declining the promotion to Brigadier General because of the poor state of his health, said:

“It was not to be. The swamps of the Chickahominy, the night bivouac and picket duty, the weary marches in mud and rain and sleet or under the scorching sun had done their work and he came home with the regiment unable to do further military duty . . .”²⁰

The last wartime entry in Veazey’s diary reads:

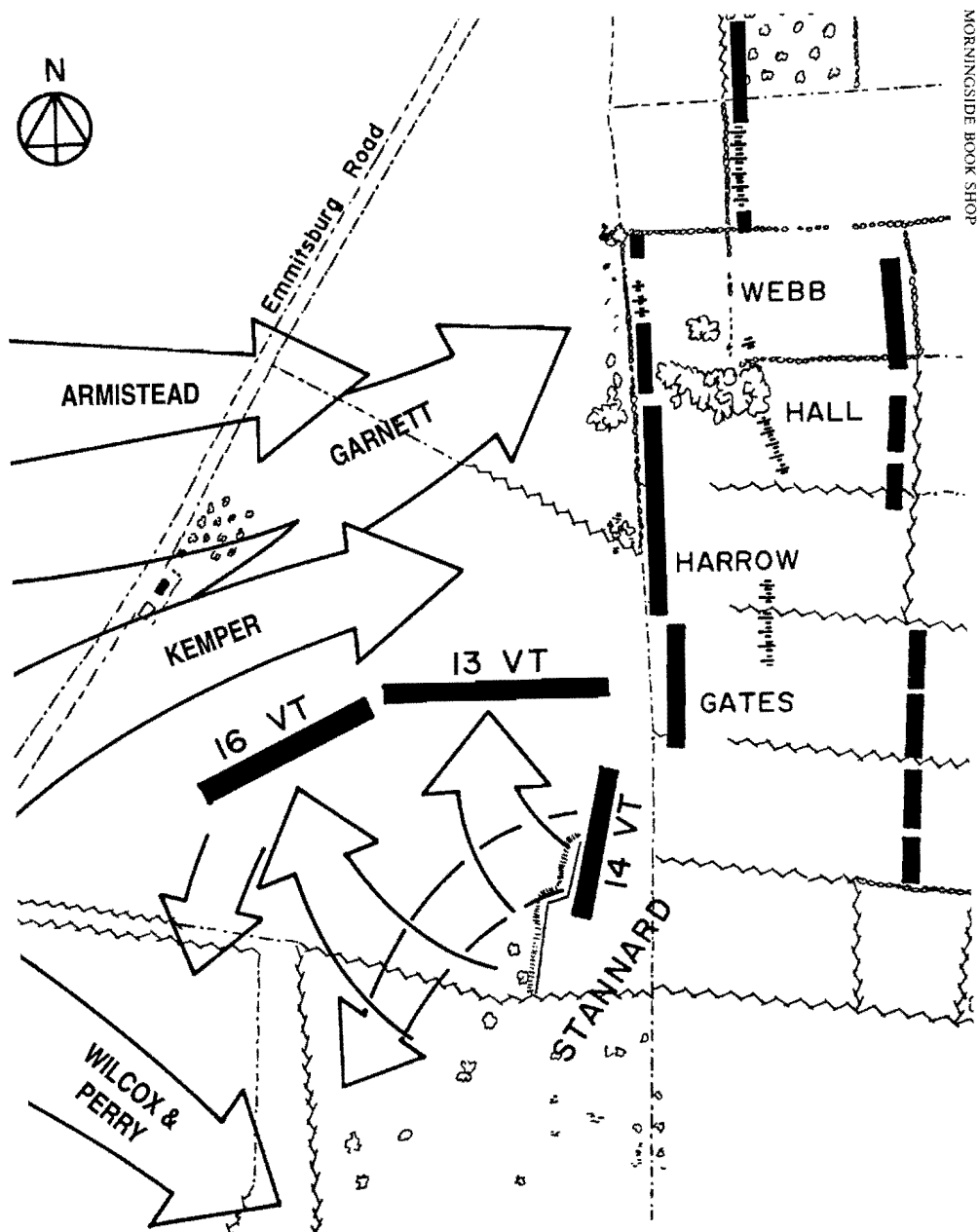
August 10, 1863: Regt. mustered out today.²¹

Commanding officers are not, as a rule, remembered with affection, but the introduction to the regimental roster published in 1892 reveals the opposite to have been the case with Colonel Veazey stating:

“The Sixteenth regiment was therefore fortunate in having as its commanding officer one whose experience in the field had equipped him so thoroughly for his command. He succeeded well in winning the confidence of the officers and men and to an eminent degree won their universal love and respect.”²²



"STANNARD'S VERMONTERS" by Michael Middleton.



*Deployment of Stannard's Brigade during Pickett's Charge showing movements of Veazey's 16th Vermont Regiment. [Modified from Tony L. Trimble: "Paper Collars: Stannard's Brigade at Gettysburg." *The Gettysburg Magazine* 22:74-79 (1990)].*

Covered with laurels, but with his health badly shattered, Colonel Veazey returned to Vermont and after a period of recuperation opened a law practice in Rutland.²³ Veazey formed a law partnership with Redfield Proctor and Walter C. Dunton, both veterans who had served with Veazey in the Second Vermont Brigade. Redfield Proctor had enlisted in the Third Regiment and had been Colonel of the Fifteenth Vermont in Stannard's Second Vermont Brigade. Dunton had been a captain in the Fourteenth Regiment. Proctor, Veazey & Dunton had offices at 9 Merchants Row, probably above J. W. Sterns' Furniture Store.²⁴ The firm was highly successful.

In 1874 Veazey defended the accused murderer, John P. Phair.²⁵ Phair was convicted but the case elicited serious discussion on the issue of capital punishment. After five years the accused was executed — still proclaiming his innocence.

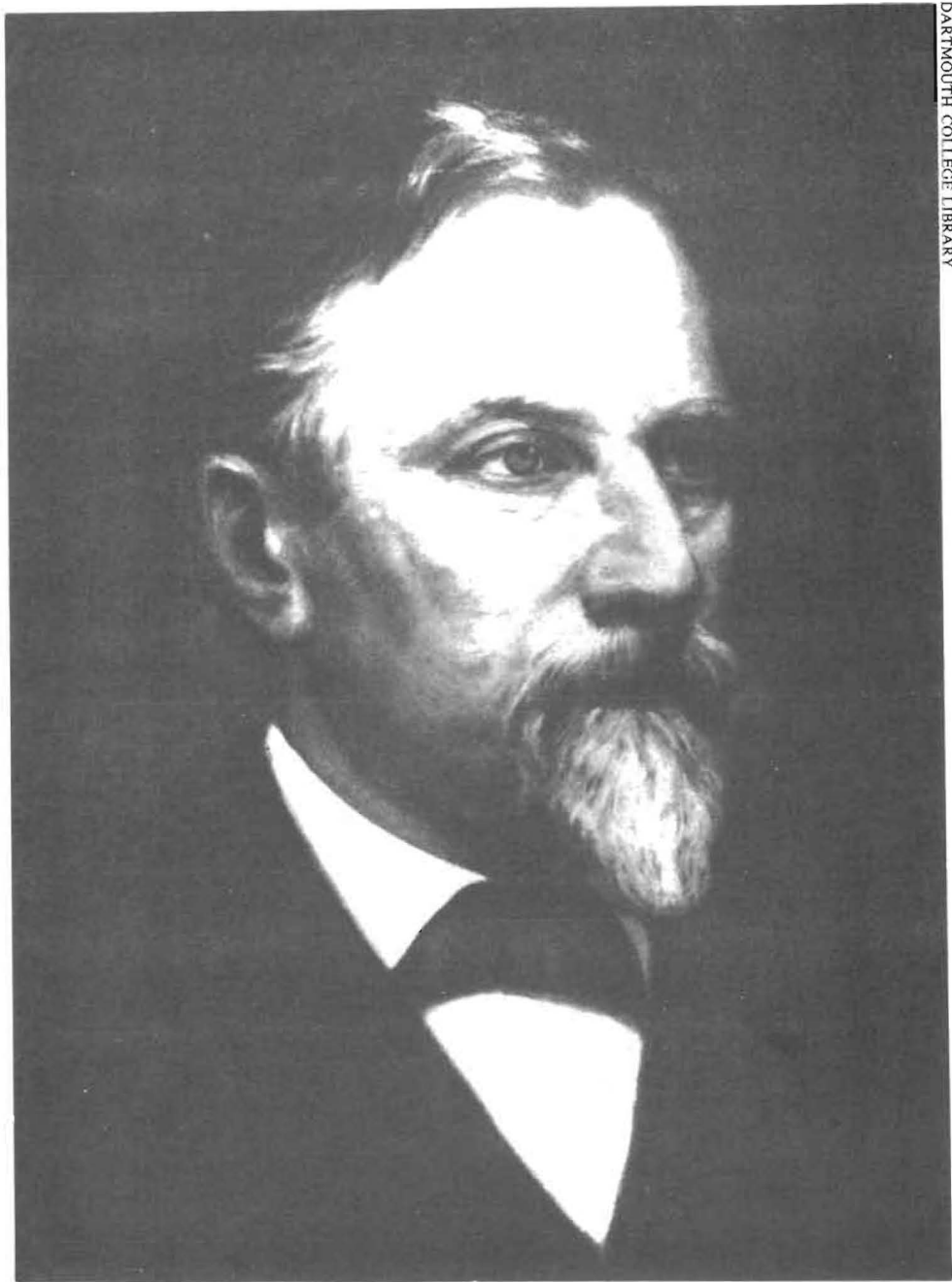
When Dunton was appointed to the Vermont Supreme Court in 1877 the firm became Proctor & Veazey. Redfield Proctor was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1876 and Governor of Vermont in 1878. The Rutland Directory for 1878-9 lists W. G. Veazey practicing alone as an attorney at 9 Merchants Row.

In April 1866, Veazey bought the Dunbar house which was located on the south side of West Street just west of the current Olney apartments. Shortly thereafter, he sold the property to his wife, Julia, for "love and \$1000". She sold the house on 1 August 1867 for \$3000 when the Veazeys moved to Pleasant Street. On 1 December 1866 Veazey had purchased a strip of land that had belonged to Redfield Proctor between Pleasant Street and Prospect Street — "19 rods, 7 feet deep, and 7 rods fronting Pleasant Street." The Veazey house is still standing at 55 Pleasant Street. After Veazey's death Julia sold the property to their son Albin B. Veazey in 1925. He then sold it to a man named Lear in 1927 ending the Veazey presence in Rutland. When the Veazeys moved to Washington in 1889 their home was rented in August 1891 to M. E. Wheeler for \$460 annually, excluding rooms in the basement and attic for storage and Veazey's office at the rear of the house.

The Veazeys had four children. Anne Gettysburg Veazey was born 7 July 1863 and she lived until 1926. An unnamed male infant died in 1866. Wheelock G. Veazey, Jr., was born in 1872 but died of diphtheria at 14 months of age. A son, Albin Beard Veazey, lived until 1936.

The Veazey marriage does seem to have been successful. In 1861 he addresses his wife in a letter as "My Darling Wife". Thirty-three years later in his letters to her she is addressed as "My Dearest", "Darling True Heart", and "My Sweetheart". Julia Veazey died in 1928 in Washington, DC.

From 1864 to 1872 Veazey was reporter of the decisions of the Vermont Supreme Court. In 1872-73 he was elected State Senator from Rutland County and in 1873 he was appointed Registrar in Bankruptcy. He was a delegate-at-large to the Republican National Convention in Cincinnati in 1876. In 1879 he was appointed a commissioner to investigate Vermont court expense and in the same year, with Justice Dunton's retirement, Veazey was appointed to fill his place on the bench and served as a Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court for ten years. His former law partner, Governor Redfield Proctor, named Veazey one of the commissioners charged with revising the laws of Vermont in 1880.



W. G. Veazey at the prime of his life as Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court and trustee of Dartmouth College. Portrait by U. D. Tenney, 1894.

Judge Veazey was a trustee of both Norwich University and Dartmouth College, the latter honoring him with an LL.D. degree. As a Trustee of Dartmouth College in 1880, he wrote to his fellow alumni requesting support. In a timeless plea, he promised them two things:²⁶

"First, no more deficits. Second, constant improvements."

He continued:

"In order to accomplish these results, we must add to our fund \$250,000. These figures may look large, but they are small in view of the ability of the Alumni and other friends of the College to pay it. I ask the class of '59 to pay \$1000 toward it, to be applied on the Daniel Webster Professorship. The class of '60 raised that sum last commencement. Let every one pay something, however small, if circumstances will permit."

Then he added quaintly:

"I ask you to aid the College also by using your influence to induce young men to go to Dartmouth. You cannot do them a greater favor . . . Probably every Alumnus could turn some young man to Dartmouth who would otherwise select another College. Let us make the classes of Dartmouth number one hundred each."

On 19 August 1891, Veazey served as President of the Day at the Dedication and Centennial Exercises of the Bennington Battle Monument and 100th Anniversary of the Admission of Vermont as a State. He was the master of ceremonies, introducing President Benjamin Harrison who had traveled to Bennington for the occasion. Judge Veazey was an ever-ready, enthusiastic and eloquent speaker. He was frequently called upon to deliver addresses on the occasion of college commencements, soldiers' reunions and other gatherings, and was especially a favorite speaker among the Civil War veterans of Vermont.²⁷

In 1889 President Harrison appointed Veazey to succeed fellow Vermonter Colonel Aldace F. Walker as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. He was helped by his strong political connections in Washington. Senator Gilman Marston of New Hampshire, in whose office Veazey had briefly studied law in 1860, endorsed the appointment. According to *The Rutland Daily Herald* of 3 September 1889:

"The Secretary of War [Redfield Proctor, Veazey's former law partner] says that he refrained from urging Judge Veazey's appointment upon the President because he did not feel that it was proper for a cabinet officer to interfere in such a matter. He had some conversation with the President when Judge Veazey's name was first suggested, but he had heard nothing since and did not know that the appointment was to be made at this time until he saw it in the newspaper."

Veazey resigned from the Vermont Supreme Court and moved to Washington, residing at 1731 P Street NW. He served for eight years until being forced to resign in 1897 following a stroke.



Commander in Chief 1891

W. G. Veazey
C. M. Bee



46 PENNSA
 701 1/2 15th St
 WASHINGTON, D.C.

W. G. Veazey in 1891 as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Colonel Veazey was continually active in veterans' affairs. He was a trustee of the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association and on 18 April 1887 visited the Gettysburg battlefield with Governor Ebenezer Ormsbee and other members of a special Vermont Monuments at Gettysburg commission. He was a charter member of Roberts Post #14 of the GAR in Rutland and served in 1874 as president of the Reunion Society of Vermont Officers. He also served three terms as GAR Vermont Department Commander and was national Judge Adjutant-General of the GAR in 1887. At the 24th annual encampment of the GAR, held in Boston in 1890, he was elected Commander-in-Chief and he presided over the Silver Anniversary encampment of the GAR in Detroit in 1891. He spent the next year traveling the country from Maine to the Pacific visiting GAR posts. He spared himself no pain on behalf of the GAR and the organization owed much of its growth and prosperity to his efforts, but his health began to fail. While, in general, harmony prevailed under his leadership, as Commander in Chief, Veazey had to face the problem of "unwanted colored Posts" (Afro-American membership). The segregated black posts in the South asked Veazey's sanction to form separate (colored) departments. Veazey recommended to the National Encampment of 1891 that the request be granted. The majority, however, accepted the view of a member who said that the question was "not one of etiquette, but of patriotism and loyalty". The encampment voted that the black posts should remain in the existing state departments. Many southern (and some northern) members resigned in disgust. Throughout the dispute, the southern posts were never asked to take blacks into their posts. After years of wrangling the GAR finally agreed in 1901 to accept separation of southern units along color lines.²⁸ Veazey's own GAR Post (Roberts Post #14) in Rutland was always integrated.²⁹

During the 26 years (1863-1889) that the Veazeys lived in Rutland, Colonel Veazey moved in the most prominent social, political and financial circles. His law partner, Redfield Proctor, was one of the wealthiest men in Rutland County. In 1869 Proctor became manager of the Sutherland Falls Marble Company which he developed into the Vermont Marble Company with himself as president. Proctor, in addition to being a Governor of Vermont, served as Secretary of War between 1889 and 1891 in President Harrison's administration before becoming a senator from Vermont. Veazey was close to Horace H. Baxter and in 1884 served as one of the pallbearers at his funeral.

The Veazeys were Episcopalians and for many years he served on the vestry board of Rutland's Trinity Church which often met in the Veazey home.

Colonel Veazey died 22 March 1898 in Washington at the age of 62 of cerebrovascular disease. He lies buried with his wife in Arlington National Cemetery. His daughter, Anne, and her husband, Clifford Stevens Walton, lie nearby. Veazey's gravestone is a rough-finished block of granite which simply reads:

Wheelock Graves Veazey

Col. 16th Vt. Vol.

1835-1898

His Wife

Julia Beard Veazey

1836-1928

The grave site (section 2, grave #1026) lies to the right of the Custis-Lee Mansion overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington. Colonel Veazey rests in distinguished Civil War company. Surrounding his grave are those of Major General John Gibbon, Colonel Hiram Berdan, Major General Edward O. C. Ord, Major General George Crook, Major General and fellow Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Julius Stahel and John Lincoln Clem—"The Drummer Boy of Chickamauga"—who later became a major general.

His associate and friend, Joseph H. Goulding of Rutland, gave the GAR eulogy for Colonel Veazey the next year bidding farewell to a "Brave soldier, upright judge, devoted friend and comrade, Christian gentleman."³⁰

He seems to have been all of these.



CROSS

Gravestone for Wheelock Graves Veazey at Arlington National Cemetery.

BACK NOTES

¹*The Boston Globe*, March 23, 1898.

²John N. Baxter was superintendent of the Rutland Marble Company and lived at 17 Cottage Street. He was the brother of Horace Henry Baxter, patriarch of the Baxter family. See Louise McCoy, "Horace Henry Baxter 1818-1884", *Rutland Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume XXIII, No. 3, 1993.

³The Reverend Edwin M. Haynes, D.D., was a Baptist clergyman who went out with the Tenth Vermont Regiment as its chaplain, serving from 1862-1864. He subsequently wrote the regimental history of the Tenth Vermont.

⁴*The Rutland Herald & Globe*, July 23, 1891.

⁵Veazey Papers. Vermont Historical Society, Montpelier.

⁶Diary of Wheelock G. Veazey, Veazey Papers. Vermont Historical Society, Montpelier.

⁷Diary of Wheelock G. Veazey.

⁸Benedict, George G., *Vermont in the Civil War 1861-5*. The Free Press Association, Burlington, VT, 1886.

⁹Herndon, Richard, "Men of Progress. Biographical Sketches and Portraits of Leaders in Business and Professional Life in and out of the State of Vermont", *New England Magazine*, Boston, 1898, pp. 223-224.

¹⁰U.S. Department of the Army, Public Information Division, "The Medal of Honor of the United States Army". U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC.

¹¹Diary of Wheelock G. Veazey.

¹²Goulding, Joseph H., "Memorial-Day Address", 1899. GAR pamphlet in the possession of the author.

¹³Benedict, George G., *Vermont at Gettysburg*, The Free Press Association, Burlington, Vermont, 1870.

¹⁴Trimble, Tony L., "Paper Collars; Stannard's Brigade at Gettysburg", *The Gettysburg Magazine*, 1990, 2:71–79.

¹⁵Trimble.

¹⁶Trimble.

¹⁷Goulding.

¹⁸U. S. War Department, *The War of the Rebellion; A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 128 Volumes, Washington, DC. U.S. Printing Office 1880–1901. Series I Volume XXVII, appendix 1041–1042.

¹⁹Service Record of Wheelock G. Veazey, Veterans Military Records, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC, 20408.

²⁰Goulding.

²¹Diary of Wheelock G. Veazey.

²²Peck, Theodore, S., *Revised Roster of Vermont Volunteers*, Watchman Publishing Company, Montpelier, VT, 1892.

²³*The Boston Globe*, March 23, 1898 and *The Rutland Herald & Globe*, July 23, 1891.

²⁴Street number designations on Merchants Row were renumbered in 1923. #9 Merchants Row prior to 1923 is now #64, which is currently occupied by "Upcountry Gatherings".

²⁵Davidson, James and Helen, Editors, "Rutland Murder Mystery 1874", *Rutland Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume XXIII, No. 4, 1993.

²⁶Veazey Papers.

²⁷Herndon.

²⁸Dearing, Mary R., *Veterans in Politics*, Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, 1952.

²⁹Wickman, Donald, "Their Share of the Glory, Rutland Blacks in the Civil War", *Rutland Historical Society Quarterly*, Volume XXII, No. 2, 1992.

³⁰Goulding.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

DAVID F. CROSS, M.D., is a physician who has been in the practice of Internal Medicine in Rutland for the past 25 years. An avid Civil War buff, he is the program co-ordinator for the Green Mountain Civil War Round Table. His particular interest is in the First Vermont Brigade.

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